

## Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A method of facilitating the use of aliases in debugging of applications, said method comprising:

obtaining an alias of an application to be debugged, the alias being unknown to at least a debug generation stage of a compiler of the application; and

resolving the alias to a name known to the compiler to facilitate use of the alias in debugging of the application.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said resolving comprises using an alias table to determine the name known to the compiler.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein said alias table comprises one or more entries, and wherein an entry of the one or more entries includes the alias and the name known to the compiler corresponding to the alias.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein the entry further includes an indication of one or more users authorized to use said alias.

5. The method of claim 2, wherein said alias table is dynamically maintainable.

6. The method of claim 2, wherein the alias is added to the alias table at runtime.

7. The method of claim 2, wherein said alias table comprises one entry having the alias and an indication of one or more users authorized to use the alias, and another entry having the alias and an indication of one or more other users authorized to use the alias.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein said resolving comprises determining whether a user debugging the application is authorized to use the alias, and resolving the alias in response to the determining indicating authorization.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein said obtaining comprises receiving an expression from a user debugging the application, said expression including said alias.

10. A method of facilitating debugging of applications, said method comprising:

obtaining an alias of an application to be debugged, the alias lacking associated debug information; and

debugging at least a portion of the application using the alias.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein the debugging comprises:

resolving the alias to a formal name of the alias;  
and

obtaining debug information for the formal name.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein said resolving comprises using an alias table to determine the formal name.

13. A method of managing the use of aliases in debugging of applications, said method comprising:

determining whether a user attempting to use an alias in debugging at least a portion of an application is authorized to use the alias; and

providing debug information for the alias, in response to the determining indicating authorization.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein said determining comprises checking an alias table to determine whether the user is authorized.

15. The method of claim 13, wherein said providing comprises resolving the alias to a name known to a compiler of the application in order to associate the debug information of that name with the alias.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein said resolving comprises using an alias table to determine the name known to the compiler.

17. A system of facilitating the use of aliases in debugging of applications, said system comprising:

an alias of an application to be debugged, the alias being unknown to at least a debug generation stage of a compiler of the application; and

means for resolving the alias to a name known to the compiler to facilitate use of the alias in debugging of the application.

18. The system of claim 17, wherein said means for resolving comprises means for using an alias table to determine the name known to the compiler.

19. The system of claim 18, wherein said alias table comprises one or more entries, and wherein an entry of the one or more entries includes the alias and the name known to the compiler corresponding to the alias.

20. The system of claim 19, wherein the entry further includes an indication of one or more users authorized to use said alias.

21. The system of claim 18, wherein said alias table is dynamically maintainable.

22. The system of claim 18, wherein the alias is added to the alias table at runtime.

23. The system of claim 18, wherein said alias table comprises one entry having the alias and an indication of one or more users authorized to use the alias, and another entry having the alias and an indication of one or more other users authorized to use the alias.

24. The system of claim 17, wherein said means for resolving comprises means for determining whether a user debugging the application is authorized to use the alias, and resolving the alias in response to the determining indicating authorization.

25. The system of claim 17, further comprising means for receiving an expression from a user debugging the application, said expression including said alias.

26. A system of facilitating debugging of applications, said system comprising:

an alias of an application to be debugged, the alias lacking associated debug information; and

means for debugging at least a portion of the application using the alias.

27. The system of claim 26, wherein the means for debugging comprises:

means for resolving the alias to a formal name of the alias; and

means for obtaining debug information for the formal name.

28. The system of claim 27, wherein said means for resolving comprises means for using an alias table to determine the formal name.

29. A system of managing the use of aliases in debugging of applications, said system comprising:

means for determining whether a user attempting to use an alias in debugging at least a portion of an application is authorized to use the alias; and

means for providing debug information for the alias, in response to the determining indicating authorization.

30. The system of claim 29, wherein said means for determining comprises means for checking an alias table to determine whether the user is authorized.

31. The system of claim 29, wherein said means for providing comprises means for resolving the alias to a name known to a compiler of the application in order to associate the debug information of that name with the alias.

32. The system of claim 31, wherein said means for resolving comprises means for using an alias table to determine the name known to the compiler.



33. A system of facilitating the use of aliases in debugging of applications, said system comprising:

an alias of an application to be debugged, the alias being unknown to at least a debug generation stage of a compiler of the application; and

a debugger to resolve the alias to a name known to the compiler to facilitate use of the alias in debugging of the application.

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34. A system of facilitating debugging of applications, said system comprising:

an alias of an application to be debugged, the alias lacking associated debug information; and

a debugger to debug at least a portion of the application using the alias.

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35. A system of managing the use of aliases in debugging of applications, said system comprising:

a debugger to determine whether a user attempting to use an alias in debugging at least a portion of an application is authorized to use the alias; and

the debugger to provide debug information for the alias, in response to the determining indicating authorization.

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36. At least one program storage device readable by a machine tangibly embodying at least one program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method of facilitating the use of aliases in debugging of applications, said method comprising:

obtaining an alias of an application to be debugged, the alias being unknown to at least a debug generation stage of a compiler of the application; and

resolving the alias to a name known to the compiler to facilitate use of the alias in debugging of the application.

37. The at least one program storage device of claim 36, wherein said resolving comprises using an alias table to determine the name known to the compiler.

38. The at least one program storage device of claim 37, wherein said alias table comprises one or more entries, and wherein an entry of the one or more entries includes the alias and the name known to the compiler corresponding to the alias.

39. The at least one program storage device of claim 38, wherein the entry further includes an indication of one or more users authorized to use said alias.

40. The at least one program storage device of claim 37, wherein said alias table is dynamically maintainable.

41. The at least one program storage device of claim 37, wherein the alias is added to the alias table at runtime.

42. The at least one program storage device of claim 37, wherein said alias table comprises one entry having the alias and an indication of one or more users authorized to use the alias, and another entry having the alias and an indication of one or more other users authorized to use the alias.

43. The at least one program storage device of claim 36, wherein said resolving comprises determining whether a user debugging the application is authorized to use the alias, and resolving the alias in response to the determining indicating authorization.

44. The at least one program storage device of claim 36, wherein said obtaining comprises receiving an expression from a user debugging the application, said expression including said alias.

45. At least one program storage device readable by a machine tangibly embodying at least one program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method of facilitating debugging of applications, said method comprising:

obtaining an alias of an application to be debugged, the alias lacking associated debug information; and

debugging at least a portion of the application using the alias.

46. The at least one program storage device of claim 45, wherein the debugging comprises:

resolving the alias to a formal name of the alias;  
and

obtaining debug information for the formal name.

47. The at least one program storage device of claim 46, wherein said resolving comprises using an alias table to determine the formal name.

48. At least one program storage device readable by a machine tangibly embodying at least one program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method of managing the use of aliases in debugging of applications, said method comprising:

determining whether a user attempting to use an alias in debugging at least a portion of an application is authorized to use the alias; and

providing debug information for the alias, in response to the determining indicating authorization.

49. The at least one program storage device of claim 48, wherein said determining comprises checking an alias table to determine whether the user is authorized.

50. The at least one program storage device of claim 48, wherein said providing comprises resolving the alias to a name known to a compiler of the application in order to associate the debug information of that name with the alias.

51. The at least one program storage device of claim 50, wherein said resolving comprises using an alias table to determine the name known to the compiler.

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